



Archived at the Flinders Academic Commons:
<http://hdl.handle.net/2328/27231>

This is a scan of a document number DUN/Speeches/1873
in the Dunstan Collection, Special Collections, Flinders University Library.
<http://www.flinders.edu.au/library/info/collections/special/dunstan/>

Title:

Press release: The Politics of Desperation

Please acknowledge the source as:
Dunstan Collection, Flinders University Library.
Identifier: DUN/Speeches/1873

© Copyright Estate Donald Allan Dunstan

PRESS RELEASE FROM THE PREMIER, MR. DUNSTAN.THE POLITICS OF DESPERATION.

29.11.72

SYDNEY - The South Australian Premier, Mr. Dunstan, tonight accused the New South Wales Premier, Sir Robert Askin, of resorting to "the politics of desperation" in his efforts to keep the Liberal Party in power at Saturday's Federal election at any cost.

He was speaking at a public meeting at Strathfield in support of the A.L.P. candidate for Lowe, Mr. W.K. Fisher, Q.C.

Mr. Dunstan said Sir Robert was deliberately raising what he thought were "scare issues".

"And he isn't worried about using smear tactics either".

Mr. Dunstan said Sir Robert had made much of law and order.

"He has distorted the facts and not hesitated to play on the citizen's legitimate concern about the crime rate to make shabby political points."

The facts were that the incidence of crime was a problem in all Australian cities.

This was so, irrespective of the political complexion of the Government of the day.

"Sydney's rising crime statistics were an example of this.

"The thing Governments have to do is take proper action to curb crime - not just talk about it.

"In South Australia we are taking vigorous action to tackle this problem at its roots.

"In doing so we have the services of the finest Police Force in Australia, headed by its most able Commissioner.

"Thanks to their efforts - which have the total support of my Government - we have the highest crime solution rate in the country".

Mr. Dunstan said that, in addition to this, his Government had legislated - on the recommendation of a Royal Commission - to provide model laws to protect the right of dissent and to preserve public order in the streets.

The S.A. Government had also commissioned a thorough inquiry, headed by a Supreme Court Judge and including criminologists, into all aspects of the criminal law.

"The truth is that no party is more concerned about the need to combat crime and to uphold the rule of law than the A.L.P."

SYDNEY - The South Australian Premier, Mr. Dunstan, tonight accused the New South Wales Premier, Sir Robert Askin, of resorting to "the politics of desperation" in his efforts to keep the Liberal Party in power at Saturday's Federal election at any cost.

He was speaking at a public meeting at Strathfield in support of the A.L.P. candidate for Lowe, Mr. W.K. Fisher, Q.C.

Mr. Dunstan said Sir Robert was deliberately raising what he thought were "scare issues".

"And he isn't worried about using smear tactics either".

Mr. Dunstan said Sir Robert had made much of law and order.

"He has distorted the facts and not hesitated to play on the citizen's legitimate concern about the crime rate to make shabby political points."

The facts were that the incidence of crime was a problem in all Australian cities.

This was so, irrespective of the political complexion of the Government of the day.

"Sydney's rising crime statistics were an example of this.

"The thing Governments have to do is take proper action to curb crime - not just talk about it.

"In South Australia we are taking vigorous action to tackle this problem at its roots.

"In doing so we have the services of the finest Police Force in Australia, headed by its most able Commissioner.

"Thanks to their efforts - which have the total support of my Government - we have the highest crime solution rate in the country".

Mr. Dunstan said that, in addition to this, his Government had legislated - on the recommendation of a Royal Commission - to provide model laws to protect the right of dissent and to preserve public order in the streets.

The S.A. Government had also commissioned a thorough inquiry, headed by a Supreme Court Judge and including criminologists, into all aspects of the criminal law.

"The truth is that no party is more concerned about the need to combat crime and to uphold the rule of law than the A.L.P."